

TPRI 2nd Grade READ MOY Story 4 Meat-Eating Plants

Most plants get food from the sun and soil, but some plants eat meat.

Meat-eating plants live in soil or dirt that does not have the food they need to survive. To get food, they must trap insects and sometimes small animals. How can a plant trap an insect? Most meat-eating plants are shaped like a trap. One kind looks like a pitcher. Another kind looks like a mouth full of teeth. Meat-eating plants look pretty or smell good, so insects are invited to take a closer look. Once they get closer to the plant, they become trapped by sticky leaves or small hairs. The insects crawl inside and cannot escape. Each meat-eating plant has a special way to turn the insect into its food. Inside the plant, the insect is turned into gooey liquid. The plant uses this liquid for food. Most of the time, meat-eating plants just eat insects. Sometimes, they might trap a mouse or a lizard. They do not eat people, so if you see a meat-eating plant, don't worry!